

Listing of Claims:

- $$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{R}^2-\text{X}-\text{C}(=\text{Q})-\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_m-\text{C}(\text{R}^1)-\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{N}-(\text{CH}_2)_p-\text{N}-(\text{R}^1)_q-\text{Alk}-\text{Y}-\text{Alk}-\text{L} \\
 \text{(I)}
 \end{array}$$

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optionally substituted with one or more alkyl or alkyloxycarbonyl radicals; and
alkyl is a straight saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radicals having from 3 to 6 carbon.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is Ar¹methyl and attached to the 2-position or R¹ is Ar¹ and attached to the 3-position.
4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the R²-X-C(=Q)- moiety is 3,5-di-(trifluoromethyl) phenylcarbonyl.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is -C(=O)-.
7. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein Alk is a covalent bond.
8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is Het².
9. (Previously Presented) A compound that is
(2R-trans) [4-(4-azetidin-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-2-benzyl-piperidin-1-yl]-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;
(2R-trans){4-[4-(1-benzoyl-azetidin-3-yl)-piperazin-1-yl]-2-benzyl-piperidin-1-yl}-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;
(2R-trans)3-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidine-1-carbonyl)-benzonitrile;
(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(3,4-difluoro-benzoyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;
(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(pyridine-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;
(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(2,5-dimethyl-2H-pyrazole-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(thiophene-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(furan-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) {2-benzyl-4-[4-(1-cyclopropanecarbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-((3R) tetrahydro-furan-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-((3S) tetrahydro-furan-3-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) [2-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidin-1-yl)-1,1-dimethyl-2-oxo-ethyl]-carbamic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

(2R-trans) 1-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidin-1-yl)-2-phenyl-propan-1-one;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(4-methyl-[1,2,3]thiadiazole-5-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) 1-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-propan-1-one;

(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(2-chloro-benzoyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) {2-benzyl-4-[4-(1-pyrazin-2-yl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

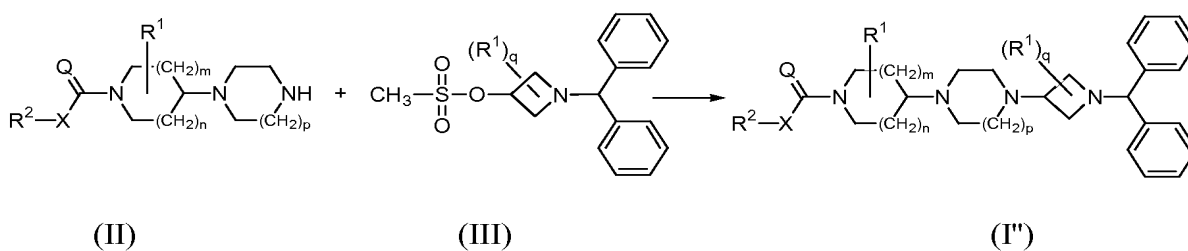
(2R-trans) (2-benzyl-4-{4-[1-(pyrazine-2-carbonyl)-azetidin-3-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-piperidin-1-yl)-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-methanone;

(2R-trans) 2-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidine-1-carbonyl)- (2R) pyrrolidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester; or

(2R-trans) 2-(3-{4-[2-benzyl-1-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-piperidin-4-yl]-piperazin-1-yl}-azetidine-1-carbonyl)- (2S) pyrrolidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)
12. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a patient suffering from schizophrenia, emesis, anxiety, depression, irritable bowel syndrome (~~HBS~~), circadian rhythm disturbances, pain, neurogenic inflammation, asthma, micturition disorders or nociception, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
14. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising mixing a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier with a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1.
15. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula (I'') in which an intermediate compound of Formula (II) is reacted with an intermediate compound of Formula (III)



wherein

X is a covalent bond;

~~each~~ R^1 is ~~independently~~ Ar^1 or Ar^1 -alkyl, wherein Ar^1 is phenyl;

R^2 is Ar^2 wherein Ar^2 is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 alkyl substituents or optionally substituted with one or more polyhaloalkyl radicals;

n is an integer, equal to 1;

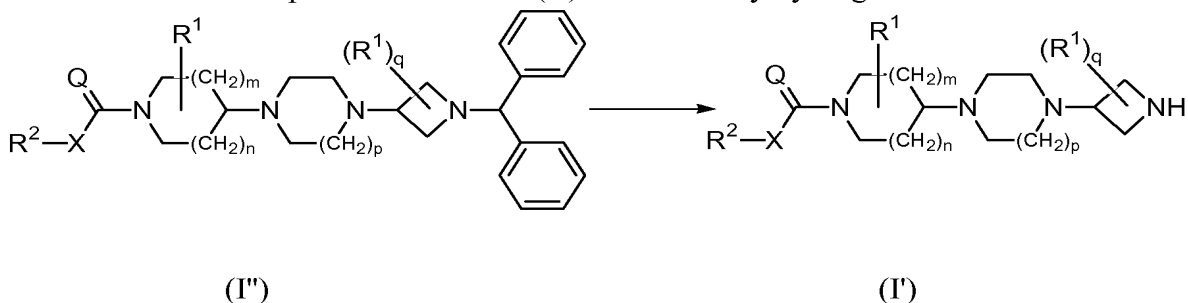
m is an integer, equal to 1;

p is an integer equal to 1;

q is an integer equal to 0; and

Q is O.

16. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula (I') in which a final compound of Formula (I'') is reductively hydrogenated



wherein

X is a covalent bond;

each R¹ is independently Ar¹ or Ar¹-alkyl, wherein Ar¹ is phenyl;

R² is Ar² wherein Ar² is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 alkyl substituents or optionally substituted with one or more polyhaloalkyl radicals;

n is an integer, equal to 1;

m is an integer, equal to 1;

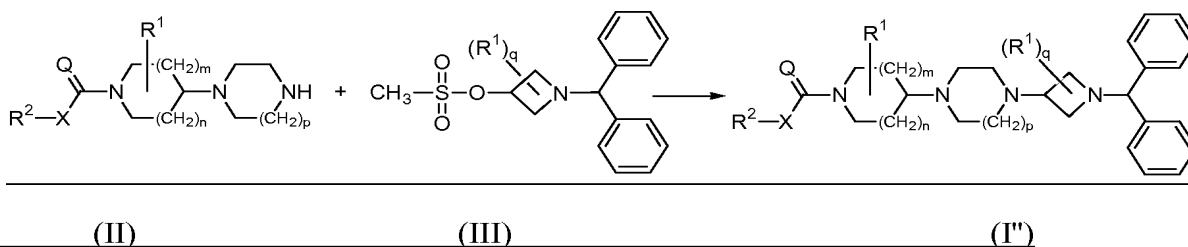
p is an integer equal to 1;

q is an integer equal to 0; and

Q is O.

17. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound according to Formula (I') comprising

preparing a compound of Formula (I'') in which an intermediate compound of Formula (II) is reacted with an intermediate compound of Formula (III)



wherein

X is a covalent bond;

R¹ is Ar¹ or Ar¹-alkyl, wherein Ar¹ is phenyl;

R² is Ar², wherein Ar² is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 alkyl substituents or optionally substituted with one or more polyhaloalkyl radicals;

n is an integer, equal to 1;

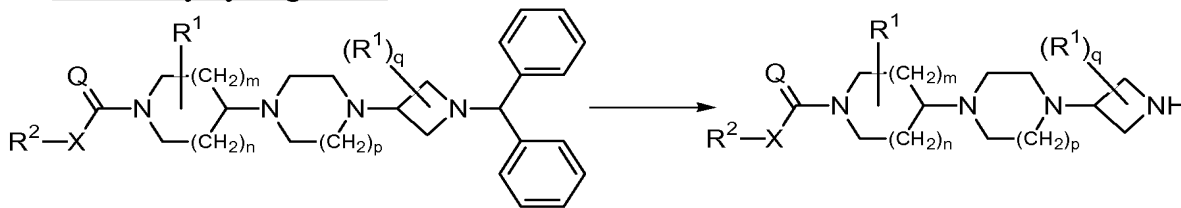
m is an integer, equal to 1;

p is an integer equal to 1;

q is an integer equal to 0; and

Q is O; and

preparing a compound of Formula (I') in which a final compound of Formula (I'') is reductively hydrogenated



(I'')

(I')

wherein

X is a covalent bond;

R¹ is Ar¹ or Ar¹-alkyl, wherein Ar¹ is phenyl;

R² is Ar², wherein Ar² is phenyl, optionally substituted with 1, 2 or 3 alkyl substituents or optionally substituted with one or more polyhaloalkyl radicals;

n is an integer, equal to 1;

m is an integer, equal to 1;

p is an integer equal to 1;

q is an integer equal to 0; and

Q is O.

the consecutive steps of

- 1) obtaining a compound of Formula (I'') according to claim 15;
- 2) obtaining a compound of Formula (I') according to claim 16